

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 OMB-01

DRC-01 /185 W

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P R 250457Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0470

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMZMBASSY TOKYO 2527

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 4178

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CB

SUBJ: KHMER QUESTION: ASIAN WORKING GROUP MEETING OCT 24

SUMMARY. ASIAN WORKING GROUP ON KHMER ITEM MET OCT 24 TO REVIEW SOUNDING MADE BY WG MEMBERS. CONSENSUS REPORTEDLY REACHED, BASED ON SOUNDINGS, AGAINST TRYING FOR IQ. GROUP PERCEIVED NO PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE PLENARY CONSIDERATION OF PRO-SIHANOUK ITEM. LONG BORET'S VOTE ESTIMATE (52 FOR, 48 AGAINST, 23 UNDECIDED) WAS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE TACTICS. CHAIRMAN ASKED JAPANESE AND USUN TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES OF AVOIDING DEBATE THIS YEAR DESPITE INSCRIPTION AND DECIDED TO MEET AGAIN OCT 26 TO PLAN NEXT STEPS. WE WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSION WITH JAPANESE, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND KHMER, OCT 25.

1. JAPANESE EVENING OCT 24 PROVIDED RUNDOWN OF ASIAN WORKING GROUP (AWG) MEETING THAT AFTERNOON. PARTICIPATION WAS AT

AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL FOR MOST COUNTRIES; GROUP CONSISTED OF ASEAN COUNTRIES PLUS AUSTRALIA, LAOS, JAPAN, KHMER AND NEW ZEALAND. (FIJI AND NEPAL INVITED BUT DID NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE.) CHAIRED BY AMB ANAND (THAILAND), GROUP DISCUSSED TACTICS AND RESULTS OF SOUNDINGS.

2. COMMENT: EARLIER DISCUSSIONS, JAPANESE INFORMED US THAT ASIANS, WHO DECIDED TO INVITE KHMER TO PARTICIPATE IN WG MEETINGS ONLY AFTER SOME DEBATE, WERE NOT PLANNING TO INCLUDE USUN IN WORKING SESSIONS. ASIANS AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT JAPANESE SHOULD KEEP US ABREAST OF AWG DISCUSSIONS. WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO ASIANS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OUR ENTHUSIASM FOR ASIAN LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE AND OUR BELIEF THAT PRO-GKR EFFORT WILL BE ENHANCED BY HAVING ASIANS OUT IN FRONT RATHER THAN USUN. AT SAME TIME, WE HAVE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT SINCE WE HAVE IMPORTANT STAKE IN OUTCOME OF EFFORT WE ANTICIPATE CONSULTING AND WORKING WITH ASIANS ON ALL TACTICAL ASPECTS. CONSISTENT WITH THIS, WE HAVE CONTINUED TO MEET REGULARLY (ALTHOUGH INCONCLUSIVELY) WITH KHMER AND JAPANESE, AND JAPANESE TOOK INITIATIVE TO BRIEF US IMMEDIATELY AFTER OCT 24 AWG MEETING. END COMMENT.

3. ACCORDING TO JAPANESE, GROUP AGREED THERE WAS NO APPARENT PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE PLENARY CONSIDERATION OF PRO-SIHANOUK RES; BUT THEY ESTIMATED MID-OR LATE NOV. (WE HAD EARLIER INFORMED USYG MORSE OF OUR STRONG DESIRE FOR LATE DISCUSSION, PARTICULARLY THAT KHMER BE DISCUSSED AFTER KOREA. MORSE TOLD US OCT 24 HE NOW ESTIMATES ITEM WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED BEFORE NOV 20 AT EARLIEST.)

4. RESULTS OF AWG SOUNDINGS/LOBBYING (WHICH OBVIOUSLY INCONCLUSIVE) WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THAIS REPORTED FOLLOWING RESULTS INFORMAL SOUNDINGS ON PRO-SIHANOUK RES, ON POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING PLENARY SUPPORT FOR NOT DEBATING ITEM THIS YEAR DESPITE INSCRIPTION, AND ON IMPORTANT QUESTION RESOLUTION:
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ARGENTINA - PROBABLE YES ON RES, NO VIEW ON DEFERMENT AND YES ON IQ. ARGENTINE PERMREP SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER ASIAN VIEWS IN FINAL DECISION.

BELGIUM - NO ON RES, YES ON DEFERMENT AND PROBABLY YES ON IQ.

CYPRUS - ABSTAIN ON ALL.

FINLAND - PROBABLY ABSTAIN ON RES, NO VIEW ON DEFERMENT AND EITHER NO OR ABSTAIN ON IQ.

FRG - THAIS REPORT FRG MIGHT ABSTAIN (BUT WE DOUBT THIS ESTIMATE.).

ICELAND- MIGHT FAVOR DEFERMENT, BUT WOULD ABSTAIN ON
SUBSTANCE AND IQ.

NETHERLANDS - NO ON RES, NO VIEW ON DEFERMENT AND YES ON IQ.

NORWAY - ABSTAIN ON RES, PROBABLE YES ON DEFERMENT AND NO ON IQ.

PANAMA - LIKELY ABSTAIN ON RES, PROBABLE YES ON DEFERMENT AND IQ.

PORTUGAL - NO INSTRUCTIONS (KHMER INTERJECTED THAT PORTUGAL
TOLD THEM IT WOULD FULLY SUPPORT KHMER POSITION).

SRI LANKA - ABSTAIN ON RES, NO ON DEFERMENT AND NO ON IQ.
(THAIS CAUTIONED THAT SRI LANKA POSITION SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL.)

SWEDEN - SAME AS NORWAY.

TUNISIA - YES OR ABSTAIN ON RES BECAUSE OF NON-ALIGNED TIES.
HOWEVER, TUNISIAN PERMREP WISHES BE HELPFUL ON
THIS ISSUE AND WOULD VOTE YES ON DEFERMENT AND
YES ON IQ.

(B) JAPANESE REPORT RESULTS OF SOUNDINGS ON RES ONLY:

BAHRAIN - NO INSTRUCTIONS BUT SUPPORTED PRO-SIHANOUK RES
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AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.

CANADA - NO.

JAMAICA - NO INSTRUCTIONS BUT WISH TO BE KEPT INFORMED
AND WANT VIEWS OF NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

JORDAN - PROBABLE YES BECAUSE OF STRONG PRESSURE FROM
NON-ALIGNED.

SWAZILAND - POSITION UNDER STUDY.

(C) NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA REPORTED DENMARK LIKELY ABSTAIN.
MALAYSIA REPORTED GHANA WOULD ABSTAIN BECAUSE OF HEAVY NON-ALIGNED
PRESSURE; TURKEY - NO; TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - ABSTAIN; MALAWI -
UNDECIDED BUT COULD NOT SUPPORT GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. POSSIBLE NO.
SINGAPORE REPORTED NEPAL LIKELY ABSTAIN AND SIERRA LEONE -
YES. AUSTRALIANS REPORTED AUSTRIA LIKELY ABSTAIN AND CHILE UN-
DECIDED. LONG BORET REPORTED HE ASKED EL SALVADOR TO TALK TO CHILE
IN HOPES OF OBTAINING NO VOTE.

(D) LAO REP REPORTEDLY ASSURED GROUP LAOS WOULD BE ABLE
(AND WOULD) OPPOSE PRO-SIHANOUK RES EVEN IF NEW GOVERNMENT

FUNCTIONING IN VIENTIANE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 4178

5. KHMER FONMIN LONG BORET PRESENTED GKR VOTE ESTIMATE, REPORTEDLY BASED ON INTENSIVE SURVEY BY KHMER DEL (WE ARE NOT YET CLEAR ABOUT BASIS FOR LONG BORET'S VOTE COUNTS): 52 OR 53 VOTES FAVORING PRO-SIHANOUK RES, 48 AGAINST, ABOUT 23 COUNTRIES HESITATING BETWEEN ABSTANTION AND SUPPORT. LONG BORET ESTIMATED THAT 9 OR 10 OF THESE COULD BE MOVED IN HELPFUL DIRECTION BY LOBBYING.

6. NAGAI DESCRIBED ATMOSPHERE AT AWG MEETING AS "SOMEWHAT OPTIMISTIC" BASED ON REPORTED VOTING ON GKR CREDENTIALS AT UNESCO (DESCRIBED AS 42-30-23 WITH 21 ABSENT - USUN LACKS CONFIRMATION) AND DECISION REACHED AT AWG MEETING TO PROCEED WITH CIRCULATION OF "JOINT VIEWS" (TEXT REPORTED USUN 3870, PARA 3) OF ASEAN NATIONS PLUS JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND WHICH ANAND
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WAS TO ARRANGE WITH SECRETARIAT AFTER MEETING.

7. LONG BORET SUGGESTED FOUR POSSIBLE APPROACHES: TO CONCENTRATE ON DEFEATING PRO-SIHANOUK RES; IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE, TO LOBBY ON BEHALF OF A COUNTER PROPOSAL, TO SEEK DEFERRAL OF DEBATE ON PRO-SIHANOUK RES TO NEXT GA OR TO TRY IQ. LED BY INDONESIA, CONSENSUS WAS TO ABANDON IQ AND TO SEEK ADDITIONAL INFO ON TACTICS OF DEFERRAL. INDONESIA ESTIMATED THAT AS MANY AS 12 TO 15 OF 23 COUNTRIES CITED AS HESITATING (PARA 5 ABOVE) WOULD SUPPORT DEFERRAL. ACCORDING TO JAPANESE, THERE WAS "NO REAL DISCUSSION" OF POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE RES.

8. JAPANESE TELL US THAT AWG ADKED SPECIFICALLY THAT THEIR CONSULTATIONS WITH USUN INCLUDE EXPLORING POSSIBLE TACTICS FOR "DEFERRAL."

9. COMMENT: WE UNABLE TO COMPLETE IN EVENING OCT 24 DISCUSSION WITH JAPANESE OF ALL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS AWG MEETING, PARTICULARLY HOW THEY BELIEVE WE MIGHT STILL MANAGE TO AVOID DEBATE THIS YEAR. WE ALSO INTEND OCT. 25 TO PURSUE WITH JAPANESE, AND WITH KHMER, PROBLEMS OF COORDINATION OF LOBBYING AND TACTICS THAT ARE HIGHLIGHTED BY JAPANESE REPORTS OF THIS AWG MEETING. WE HOPE ALSO TO BE IN POSITION SHORTLY TO MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION REGARDING LOBBYING BY US POSTS IN CAPITALS.
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TAGS: PFOR UN CB
To: STATE INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
JAKARTA
KUALA LUMPUR
MANILA
PHNOM PENH
SINGAPORE

AMZMBASSY TOKYO
WELLINGTON
VIENTIANE

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